

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 01137 111542Z

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-06 FEA-01 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07

IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 DODE-00

ERDA-05 TRSE-00 EUR-12 /083 W

-----112359Z 009284 /73

R 111510Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0048

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRASILIA 1137

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BR, AR, TECH, ENRG, PARM, GW

SUBJECT: ALLEGED ARGENTINE AMBASSADORIAL CONSULTATIONS ON
FRG-GOB NUCLEAR ACCORD

REF: A. BRASILIA 0821 B. BRASILIA 1116 C. BUENOS AIRES 1037

1. SUMMARY. BRAZILIAN PRESS HAS REPORTED EXTENSIVELY UPON ARGENTINE REACTION TO US PRESSURES AGAINST FRG-GOB NUCLEAR ACCORD AND THE GOA AMBASSADOR'S RECENT CONSULTATION IN BUENOS AIRES. ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR HAS STRESSED UPON RETURN THAT PURPOSES OF HIS CONSULTATION WAS TO PREPARE GROUND FOR BILATERAL GOA-GOB AGREEMENTS ON BROAD RANGE OF TOPICS WHICH ARGENTINE EMBASSY SAID WILL INCLUDE EXPANSION OF TRADE AND HYDROELECTRIC PROJECTS. HE HAS ALTERNATELY DENIED AND ADMITTED THAT US PRESSURE ON GOB NUCLEAR ACCORD WAS A TOPIC OF DISCUSSION IN HIS SESSION WITH VIDELA. BRAZILIAN PRESS HAS CONTINUED TO HIGHLIGHT SUPPORTIVE STATEMENTS FOR BRAZILIAN POSITION OUT OF ARGENTINA AND SPECULATED ABOUT REPORTS THAT

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PAGE 02 BRASIL 01137 111542Z

ARGENTINA MIGHT PROPOSE A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FOR PEACEFUL USE OF ATOMIC ENERGY. END SUMMARY.

2. JORNAL DE BRASILIA FEB. 5 ANNOUNCED ARGENTINA HAD RECALLED HER AMBASSADORS IN BRASILIA AND BONN FOR CONSULTATIONS ON FRG-GOB NUCLEAR ACCORD. PAPER CONTINUED, INCORRECTLY, THAT ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR CAMILLION WOULD ARRIVE WEEK OF FEB. 7

FOR CONSULTATIONS. IN FACT CAMILLION RETURNED TO BUENOS AIRES MORNING OF JAN. 28 WITH LITTLE, IF ANY, KNOWLEDGE OF SECRETARY'S JAN. 27 COMMUNICATION, FOR WHAT ARGENTINE EMBASSY OFFICER THAT SAME DAY TOLD EMBOFF WAS CONSULTATION ON BROAD RANGE OF BILATERAL GOA-GOB ISSUES INCLUDING EXPANSION OF TRADE AND HYDROELECTRIC PROJECTS. THIS VERSION SEEMED AT LEAST PARTIALLY BORNE OUT BY FEB. 6 BRAZILIAN PRESS REPORTS OF CAMILLION'S FEB. 5 MEETING WITH PRESIDENT VIDELA, IN WHICH AMBASSADOR DENIED HE HAD DISCUSSED NUCLEAR ACCORD WITH PRESIDENT, BUT ANNOUNCED THAT BRAZIL AND ARGENTINA WOULD PROBABLY SIGN A SERIES OF BILATERAL ACCORDS WHICH WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE THEIR RELATIONS AT ALL LEVELS.

3. DESPITE CAMILLION'S DENIAL THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED NUCLEAR ACCORD WITH VIDELA, AMBASSADOR'S STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR GOB POSITION (REF A) AND SIMILAR STATEMENTS FROM GOA AND PRESS IN FACE OF US PRESSURES SEEM TO HAVE BEEN APPRECIATED HERE AND HAVE DRAWN HEADLINES. BRAZILIAN PRESS HAS HIGHLIGHTED COMMENTARY IN SUPPORT OF GOB POSITION FROM LA OPINION AND LA NACION (REF C). JORNAL DO BRASIL NOTED FEB. 6 THAT ITAMARATY OFFICIALS CONSIDER ARGENTINE SUPPORT THE FIRST INDIRECT CONSEQUENCE OF US PRESSURES AGAINST THE ACCORD, WHICH WAS ECHOED IN A LENGTHY ESTADO DE SAO PAULO REVIEW OF RECENT US-BRAZILIAN TENSIONS (REF B).

4. CAMMILLION PROBABLY FURTHER ENDEARED HIMSELF HERE WITH HIS STATEMENTS ON RETURN FROM BUENOS AIRES, PRINTED IN JORNAL DO BRASIL FEB. 8. COMMENTING ABOUT THE REACTION IN ARGENTINA TO US PRESSURES AGAINST THE NUCLEAR ACCORD, HE SAID "ALL THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BRASIL 01137 111542Z

AFFECTS A COUNTRY LOOKING TO DEVELOP ITS POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE IN A DETERMINED WAY, ALSO AFFECTS OTHERS IN THE SAME SITUATION." HE NOTED THAT GOA HAD NOT DECIDED TO TAKE A PUBLIC POSITION ON THE ISSUE, BUT THAT ARGENTINE PUBLIC OPINION STRONGLY FAVORED THE BRAZILIAN POSITION. HE ADDED, "IF BRAZIL SUFFERS EXTERNAL PRESSURES AGAINST ITS EFFORTS TO DEVELOP AN INDEPENDENT NUCLEAR POLICY, IT IS LOGICAL THAT ARGENTINA WHICH IS IN THE SAME SITUATION ALSO FEELS THREATENED."

5. CAMILLION ALSO REVERSED HIMSELF IN FEB. 5 COMMENTS, INDICATING HE DID IN FACT SPEAK OF BRAZIL NUCLEAR ACCORD PROBLEMS WITH VIDELA, BUT HE DECLINED TO GO INTO DETAILS. AMBASSADOR SAID THAT BROADER COOPERATION WAS POSSIBLE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES ON THE NUCLEAR ISSUE BUT THAT IT WAS STILL NOT OPPORTUNE TO DISCUSS IT.

6. BRAZILIAN PRESS NOTED FEB. 10 SUPPORTIVE LINE FROM PRESIDENT OF GO'S NUCLEAR AGENCY, CASTRO MADERO, WHO ALLEGEDLY SAID ARGENTINA "IS SOLIDLY WITH BRAZIL IN THE MATTER OF PEACEFUL

USE OF ATOMIC ENERGY." IN RELATED DEVELOPMENT, FEB 10 JORNAL DO BRASIL SAID ITAMARATY SPOKESMAN HAD DENIED HAVING ANY KNOWLEDGE OF REPORT OUT OF BUENOS AIRES THAT GOA WAS STUDYING POSSIBILITY OF A COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH GOB FOR PEACEFUL USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY. GOA AMBASSADOR WOULD ONLY SAY SUCH COLLABORATION WAS POSSIBLE, WHEN QUERIED BY PRESS. JORNAL CONTINUED THAT IDEA OF A MAJOR RAPPROCHEMENT WITH ARGENTINA IN WAKE OF US PRESSURES ON NUCLEAR AGREEMENT "APPEARED TO BE WELL RECEIVED" IN ITAMARATY, AND IN THE SPIRIT OF EFFORTS MADE IN THAT DIRECTION BY GOA AND GOB FOREIGN MINISTERS DURING THE DECEMBER PLATE BASIN CONFERENCE. JORNAL ADDED MILITARY SOURCES SIMILARLY HAD A POSITIVE VIEW OF REPORTS OF POSSIBLE ARGENTINE-BRAZILIAN AGREEMENT.

CRIMMINS

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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